

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1           1.       (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data stored on an  
2 information recording medium, the data having audio information, visual information, or audio-  
3 visual information, the data containing a watermark, the apparatus comprising:  
4               a reproduction processing circuit configured to receive the information that is  
5 stored on the information recording medium to produce the data;  
6               a data store configured to receive a subset of the data;  
7               a detecting circuit coupled to the data store and configured to process data  
8 contained therein to produce a detection result, the detection result being based on the  
9 watermark; and  
10              a control circuit configured to selectively output the data based on the detection  
11 result.

1           2.       (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a data  
2 selection circuit configured to select a first subset of the data, the data selection circuit coupled to  
3 deliver the first subset to the data store, wherein the detecting circuit processes the first subset.

1           3.       (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the capacity of  
2 the data store is equal to or greater than the minimum size of the first subset.

1           4.       (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the detecting  
2 circuit is further configured to produce a signal indicating the completion of processing of the  
3 first subset, wherein the selection circuit selects, in response to the signal, a second subset of the  
4 data, and wherein the second subset replaces the first subset.

1                   5.       (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the detecting  
2 circuit is further configured to indicate that the first subset has been delivered to the data store,  
3 and wherein the selection circuit selects, in response thereto, a second subset from the data for  
4 delivery to the data store.

1                   6.       (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the data is an  
2 ISO-MPEG 2 formatted data stream, and wherein the first subset is an I-picture.

1                   7.       (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including a data bus coupled  
2 only between the detection circuit and the control circuit, wherein the detection circuit produces  
3 a signal representative of the detection result, the signal being sent to the control circuit via the  
4 data bus.

1                   8.       (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces  
2 a signal representative of the detection result, the detection circuit further configured to encode  
3 the signal using a decryption key, the control circuit further configured to receive the encoded  
4 signal and to decode the signal using the decryption key.

1                   9.       (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces  
2 a signal representative of the detection result, wherein the detection circuit and the control circuit  
3 are further configured to exchange authentication data with each other, and wherein the detection  
4 circuit is further configured to deliver the signal to the control circuit when the detection circuit  
5 makes a positive determination that the control circuit is permitted to receive the signal.

1                   10.      (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the detection circuit is further  
2 configured to encode the signal using the authentication data, and the control circuit is further  
3 configured to receive the encoded signal and to decode the signal using the authentication data.

1                   11.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces  
2 a first signal when processing of data in the data store produces the detection result a first  
3 predetermined number of times in succession, the control circuit selectively outputting the first  
4 data in response to the signal.

1                   12.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the detection circuit,  
2 subsequent to producing the first signal, produces a second signal when processing of data in the  
3 data store produces a second detection result a second predetermined number of times in  
4 succession, the control circuit selectively outputting the first data in response to the first and  
5 second signals.

1                   13.    (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first data is ISO-MPEG 2  
2 formatted.

1                   14.    (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store  
2 receives at least some of the data at a data rate equal to a data rate at which the reproduction  
3 processing circuit produces the data.

1                   15.    (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store is  
2 further configured to output data contained therein at the same time it receives a subset of the  
3 data.

1                   16.    (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store  
2 receives a subset of the data at a first data rate equal to a data rate at which the reproduction  
3 processing circuit produces the data,

4                    wherein the detecting circuit is further configured to indicate a second data rate  
5 and the data store is further configured to output the data contained therein at the second data  
6 rate in response thereto.

1                   17.     (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detecting circuit is further  
2 configured to receive data contained in the data store at a third data rate and process the data to  
3 produce a detection result at a fourth data rate, wherein the fourth data rate is equal to or greater  
4 than the third data rate.

1                   18.     (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data ~~in~~stored on an  
2 information recording medium, the data containing a watermark, the apparatus comprising:  
3                   a reproduction processing circuit configured to receive information stored on the  
4 information recording medium to produce the data;  
5                   a data store configured to receive a subset of the data;  
6                   a detecting circuit coupled to the data store and configured to process data  
7 contained therein to produce a detection result, the detection result being based on the  
8 watermark; and  
9                   a control circuit configured to selectively output the first data based on the  
10 detection result and the type of the information recording medium.

1                   19.     (Currently amended) A, the data having audio information, visual  
2 information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark, the method  
3 comprising:  
4                   receiving the data from ~~a data source~~the information recording medium;  
5                   storing the data in a data store;  
6                   producing a detection result by processing data in the data store, the detection  
7 result based on the watermark;  
8                   selectively outputting the data based on the detection result.

1                   20.     (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein selectively outputting is  
2 further based on the type of the data source.

1           21.     (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data having audio  
2 information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark,  
3 the apparatus comprising:

4                   first means for providing the data from ~~a data source~~ an information recording  
5 medium;

6                   second means, coupled to the first means, for storing a subset of the first data;

7                   third means for producing a detection result, including means for processing data  
8 stored in the second means; and

9                   fourth means, operatively coupled to the third means, for outputting the data  
10 based on the detection result.

1           22-28. (Canceled)

1           29.     (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data having audio  
2 information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark  
3 and stored in an information storage medium, the apparatus comprising:

4                   a reproduction processing circuit configured to receive information stored on the  
5 information recording medium to reproduce the data including the watermark;

6                   a detecting circuit configured to detect the watermark;

7                   a data selection circuit configured to select a subset of the data which is necessary  
8 for the detection of the watermark;

9                   a data store configured to store the subset;

10                  a reproduction control circuit configured to control the reproduction of the data,  
11 depending upon a result of the detection of the watermark by the detecting circuit,

12                  wherein the data store is shared by the reproduction processing circuit and the  
13 detecting circuit.

1           30.     (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the watermark  
2 represents copyright protection information on the data.

1                    31.    (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the watermark  
2   represents copyright protection information on the data.

1                    32.    (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the watermark  
2   represents copyright protection information on the data.